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Message Text

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S/S - MR. MOFFAT
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 252407

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS:OVIP (FORD, GERALD R.)
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: DRAFT JOINT COMMUNIQUE

REF: SEOUL 7505

FOLLOWING IS TEXT U.S. DRAFT OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE.
(INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED SEPTEL)
AT THE INVITATION OF PRESIDENT PARK CHUNG HEE OF THE
REPUBLIC OF KOREA, PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD OF THE
UNITED STATES VISITED THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA ON NOVEMBER 22
AND 23, 1974, TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE CURRENT INTERNATIONAL
SITUATION AND TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST AND
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CONCERN TO THE TWO NATIONS.

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DURING THE VISIT PRESIDENT FORD AND PRESIDENT PARK HELD DISCUSSIONS ON TWO OCCASIONS. PRESENT AT THESE MEETINGS WERE PRIME MINISTER KIM CHONG PIL, SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER, FOREIGN MINISTER KIM DONG JO, AMBASSADOR RICHARD L. SNEIDER, AMBASSADOR HAHM PYONG CHOON AND OTHER HIGH OFFICIALS OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS. PRESIDENT FORD ALSO VISITED AMERICAN FORCES STATIONED IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA.

PRESIDENT FORD VISITED THE GRAVE OF MADAME PARK CHUNG HEE AND EXPRESSED HIS DEEPEST PERSONAL CONDOLENCES TO PRESIDENT PARK ON HER TRAGIC AND UNTIMELY DEATH.

PRESIDENT FORD AND PRESIDENT PARK TOOK NOTE OF SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGES IN THE SITUATION IN ASIA IN RECENT YEARS AND AGREED THAT THE PROSPECTS FOR PEACE IN THE REGION WERE GENERALLY IMPROVED. THEY RECOGNIZED THAT THE ALLIED COUNTRIES IN THE AREA ARE INCREASINGLY STRONG AND PROSPEROUS AND ARE ABLE TO MAKE INCREASING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THEIR SECURITY AS WELL AS TO THAT OF THE REGION. PRESIDENT FORD EXPLAINED THAT THE UNITED STATES, AS A PACIFIC POWER, IS VITALLY INTERESTED IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC AND WILL CONTINUE ITS BEST EFFORT TO ENSURE THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF THE REGION. PRESIDENT PARK EXPRESSED HIS UNDERSTANDING AND FULL SUPPORT FOR UNITED STATES POLICIES DIRECTED TOWARD THESE ENDS.

PRESIDENT PARK DESCRIBED THE DEVELOPMENT OF TALKS BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND NORTH KOREA. HE NOTED THE EFFORTS MADE BY THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO MAKE PROGRESS IN THESE TALKS DESPITE THE FAILURE OF NORTH KOREAN AUTHORITIES TO RESPOND IN A MEANINGFUL WAY. PRESIDENT PARK INDICATED THE INTENTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO CONTINUE TO PURSUE THE DIALOGUE. PRESIDENT FORD COMMENDED THE CONSTRUCTIVE INITIATIVES BY THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO REDUCE TENSION ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA AND EXPRESSED HIS HOPE THAT THESE DISCUSSIONS WOULD EVOLVE CONSTRUCTIVELY IN THE FUTURE.
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THE TWO PRESIDENTS AGREED THAT REPUBLIC OF KOREA FORCES AND AMERICAN FORCES STATIONED IN KOREA MUST MAINTAIN A HIGH DEGREE OF STRENGTH AND READINESS IN ORDER TO DETER AGGRESSION. PRESIDENT FORD REAFFIRMED THE DETERMINATION OF THE UNITED STATES TO RENDER PROMPT AND EFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE TO REPEL ARMED ATTACK AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY

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OF 1954 BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES. IN THIS CONNECTION, PRESIDENT FORD ASSURED PRESIDENT PARK THAT THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT NOW PLAN ANY SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION IN THE LEVEL OF UNITED STATES FORCES IN KOREA.

PRESIDENT PARK AND PRESIDENT FORD DISCUSSED THE PROGRESS OF THE MODERNIZATION PROGRAM FOR THE

REPUBLIC OF KOREA ARMED FORCES. THEY AGREED THAT THE PROGRAM IS IMPORTANT FOR THE SECURITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND PEACE ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA. PRESIDENT FORD TOOK NOTE OF THE INCREASING SHARE OF THE DEFENSE BURDEN WHICH THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA IS ABLE AND WILLING TO ASSUME AND THE SUCCESSFUL DEVELOPMENT OF DEFENSE INDUSTRIES IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA. THE TWO PRESIDENTS AGREED THAT THEIR TWO GOVERNMENTS WOULD CONTINUE TO CONSULT CLOSELY ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MODERNIZATION PROGRAM AND OTHER MATTERS CONCERNING THE MUTUAL SECURITY OF BOTH COUNTRIES.

THE TWO PRESIDENTS DISCUSSED THE CURRENT UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONSIDERATION OF THE KOREAN QUESTION. THEY AGREED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF FAVORABLE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION ON THE DRAFT RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY THE UNITED STATES AND 24 OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES. BOTH EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE GENERALASSEMBLY WOULD APPROACH CONSIDERATION OF THE KOREAN QUESTION RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS WHICH HAVE PRESERVED PEACE ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA FOR TWENTY-ONE YEARS.

PRESIDENT FORD EXPRESSED HIS ADMIRATION FOR THE CONFIDENTIAL

RAPID AND SUSTAINED ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, ACCOMPLISHED IN THE FACE OF CONSIDERABLE OBSTACLES, INCLUDING THE LACK OF SUFFICIENT INDIGENOUS NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONTINUIMG ,ENSIONS IN THE AREA . PRESIDENT PARK NOTED WITH APPRECIATION THE UNITED STATES CONTRIBUTION TO KOREA'S DEVELOPMENT IN THE ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL FIELDS. THEY NOTED THE IMPORTANT ROLE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY HAVE PLAYED IN KOREA'S NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC ACHIEVEMENTS.

THE TWO PRESIDENTS EXAMINED THE IMPACT OF RECENT INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS ON THE ECONOMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA. THEY AGREED THAT CONTINUED PRIVATE INVESTMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES

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AND OTHER COUNTRIES IS DESIRABLE. BOTH PRESIDENTS EXPRESSED MUTUAL SATISFACTION OVER THE CONTINUING GROWTH OF SUBSTANTIAL BILATERAL TRADE RELATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN BENEFICIAL TO BOTH COUNTRIES.

MANY COUNTRIES ARE EXPERIENCING AN INCREASING TRADE DEFICIT PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF THE INCREASED COSTS OF RAW MATERIALS AND FOOD. IT WAS AGREED THAT

INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS SHOULD FOCUS ON DEVELOPING A DEDICATION TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FREE AND EQUITABLE ACCESS TO THE PRODUCE OF ALL COUNTRIES ON TERMS FAIR TO BOTH PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS.

THE TWO PRESIDENTS REAFFIRMED THE TRADITIONAL BOND OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THEIR TWO COUNTRIES. THEY AGREED TO CONTINUE THE CLOSE COOPERATION AND REGULAR CONSULTATION ON SECURITY MATTERS AND OTHER SUBJECTS OF CONCERN WHICH HAS CHARACTERIZED THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES.

ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBERS OF HIS PARTY AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, PRESIDENT FORD EXTENDED HIS DEEPEST THANKS TO PRESIDENT PARK AND ALL THE CITIZENS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA FOR THE WARMTH OF THEIR CONFIDENTIAL

RECEPTION AND THE MANY COURTESIES EXTENDED TO HIM DURING THE VISIT.

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